Docket No.: 2185-0577P (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Naoyuki TAKANO et al.

Application No.: 09/971,929 Confirmation No.: 2971

Filed: October 9, 2001 Art Unit: 1654

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING AN AMIDE Examiner: S. R. Gudibande

COMPOUND

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated March 30, 3007, Applicants respectfully submit the following Remarks/Arguments which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

JWB/ETP